

“Holborn and Covent Garden” Ward – Julian Fulbrook, Sue Vincent, and Brian Woodrow. Bloomsbury Councillors wish them every success in representing this unique and vibrant area, and dealing with its problems. We will all miss the privilege of representing the residents of Covent Garden, but will stay in touch with many friends made over the years.

*Cllr Peter Brayshaw*

## Charing Cross Police

This has been a mixed year for the police team at Charing Cross. Firstly, the number of officers on the team has fallen again since the last report and I now have only five constables left for community work. However, we continue to be positive and it is the very excellent relationships /partnerships that we have within this area that enables us to continue to provide a very responsive and closely-knit level of policing.

The success of the sponsored policing pilot at the end of April whereby a number of businesses, mainly led by the Maxwell's and the Chorion groups, funded extra police patrols. Analysis of the results shows no real decrease in crimes for the area, particularly in respect of thefts of handbags etc within licensed premises. However, the main aim was to provide a reassuring presence, particularly within James Street and outside the nightclubs. To a large degree, I am happy that this was achieved.

I am currently writing to all the businesses in the area and inviting them to participate in the next round and the future of the scheme is very much dependent upon generous local business support. Particular mention is to be made of Jo Weir who has been an ardent supporter for more police for a number of years and Jo kindly came up with a donation, even though the Apple Market Traders are not by any means a large empire. Thanks again Jo.

Secondly for mention is the Sector Working Group. This meeting, a wide consultative one for businesses and residents, has not been receiving the support that it did when I first took over the sector. There are various reasons for this and one maybe lack of proper ownership and advertisement. John Bos and myself have talked this over and we have set two new dates for the rest of the year and actively encourage you to come along and take part in debates about Policing matters that concern you.

The dates are 4th July at 7pm and 14th November at 11am.

Both meetings will be at Charing Cross Police Station.

If anybody has any good ideas we would love to hear from you.

Thanks again for all your support for my team and myself and I look forward to reporting to you again next year.

*Paul Wright, Inspector,  
Covent Garden Sector*

## Holborn Police

After reflection of the last year's events in terms of policing, there is no doubt the best news for local residents and business was the recent re opening of Holborn Police Station. I fully understand local people's frustration during the last two years with officers being based at Kings Cross Police Station. Our aim is a return to more visible policing in the area with locally based officers.

The Lilac Project finished on 30th March 2002. Although there are mixed feelings in the community regarding the project, dependant on where you live or work, the enforcement strand of the project resulted in over 1,000 arrests including 174 for drug dealing.

A result of the exit strategy for the project is the increase of officers on my community policing team from 7 to 14 police constables with 2 sergeants. This will enable me to boost the number of officers dedicated to Covent Garden and Bloomsbury. I am in charge of the Sector Policing Unit for Holborn Sector, which in policing terms is all of Camden south of the Euston Road.

Our policing priorities for 2002/2003 are to reduce street crime and burglary and to disrupt the drug market. There is no doubt that drug dealing and using causes most concern to people in the area. We will be targeting issues such as injecting drugs in public and aggressive begging, which clearly effect the quality of life in the area. However, policing alone will not resolve the